

Docket No.: 50212-132

PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of : Customer Number: 20277
Tetsufumi TSUZAKI, et al. : Confirmation Number: 7978
Serial No.: 09/667,576 : Group Art Unit: 3663
Filed: September 22, 2000 : Examiner: S. Cunningham
For: OPTICAL AMPLIFIER AND OPTICAL AMPLIFICATION METHOD

#20/IDS w/atts
2-3-04

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Mail Stop Information Disclosure
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

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GROUP 3600

Dear Sir:

In accordance with the provisions of 37 C.F.R. 1.56, 1.97 and 1.98, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached form PTO-1449. It is respectfully requested that the references be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that the references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed within three months of the U.S. filing date OR before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits. No certification or fee is required.

Each non-English language reference was first cited in a corresponding foreign application search report or office action and its relevance discussed therein. A copy of the

foreign search report or office action, together with an English language version thereof, is attached for the Examiner's information.

Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account 500417 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

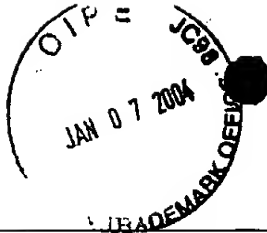
Respectfully submitted,

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SHEET 1 OF 1

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION (PTO-1449)				ATTY. DOCKET NO. 50212-132		SERIAL NO. 09/667,576		
				APPLICANT Tetsufumi TSUZAKI, et al.				
				FILING DATE September 22, 2000		GROUP 3663		
U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS								
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Document Number Number-Kind Code ² (if known)		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear		
		US						
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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS								
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Foreign Patent Document Country Codes-Number 4 -Kind Codes (if known)		Publication Date MM-DD-YYYY	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Pages, Columns, Lines Where Relevant Figures Appear	Translation	
		Yes	No					
		JP 10-256634 (w/ English Abstract)		09/25/1998	HITACHI LTD.			
		JP 6-276154 (w/ English Abstract)		09/30/1994	NIPPON TELEGR & TELEPH CORP. <NTT>			
		JP 10-22924 (w/ English Abstract)		01/23/1998	NEC CORP.			
		JP 9-230400 (w/ English Abstract)		09/05/1997	FUJITSU LTD.			
OTHER ART (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)								
EXAMINER'S INITIALS	CITE NO.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.						
EXAMINER				DATE CONSIDERED				

*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

1 Applicant's unique citation designation number (optional). 2 Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.